Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 023960

42.

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

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APPROVED BY S/S-O:LMATTESON

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P 022003Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

COMIDEASTFOR PRIORITY

SECRETSTATE 023960

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO AMEMBASSIES ABU DHABI, BEIRUT, CAIRO, DOHA, JIDDA, KUWAIT, MUSCAT, TEHRAN FROM AMEMBASSY MANAMA 02 FEB 75:

QUOTE S E C R E T MANAMA 0137

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 : GDS TAGS : MARR, BA

SUBJECT : STATUS MIDDLE EAST FORCE NEGOTIATIONS

1. FEBRUARY 1 I ASKED FOREIGN MINISTER WHEN WE COULD WRAP UP PAPER WORK ON MIDDLE EAST FORCE NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID CABINET FIRST WANTED TO HEAR DETAILED BRIEFING BY LEGAL MINISTER BAHARNA ON PROCEDURAL UNDERSTANDING RE JURISDICTION AND TO DISCUSS OUR DRAFT LETTER NOTING SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTAINING REASSURANCES RE MIDEASTFOR MISSION. GOB HOPED TO GET THROUGH THIS WITHIN A WEEK AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER SAID RADICAL OPPOSITION MEMBERS IN SECRET

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ASSEMBLY NOW TRYING TO TABLE "SENSE OF PARLIAMENT" RESOLUTION

OPPOSING U.S. NAVY PRESENCE. NOTING SPEAKER HAD RULED CALL FOR VOTE OUT OF ORDER DURING LAST WEEKS CLOSED SESSION DEBATE, FOREIGN MINISTER SAID GOB HAD NOT YET DECIDED HOW TO HANDLE THIS LATEST OPPOSITION EFFORT OTHER THAN TO STALL FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. HE SAID GOB DOES NOT INTEND LET THIS PROBLEM DELAY WRAPPING UP NEGOTIATIONS. HE REAFFIRMED ANY RESOLUTION WOULD IN ANY EVENT NOT HAVE LEGAL FORCE UNDER CONSTITUTION BUT WOULD MERELY BE EXPRESSION OF ASSEMBLY OPINION. HE ADDED THAT WHILE THREE OF THIRTY ELECTED DEPUTIES HAD TRIED TO BE HELPFUL IN DEBATE HE HAD IMPRESSION OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF ELECTED MEMBERS WOULD VOTE FOR A MOTION DENOUNCING CONTINUED NAVY PRESENCE HERE.

- 3. I CONGRATULATED FOREIGN MINISTER ON HIS HANDLING OF DEBATE AND DETERMINATION TO PRESS ON WITH WRAPPING UP THIS MATTER. HIS REACTION SEEMED MORE ONE OF GRIM CONFIDENCE THAN JUBILATION.
- 4. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECDEF, JCS, CINCUSNAVEUR AND COMIDEASTFOR. TWINAM UNQUOTE KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Subject: : STATUS MIDDLE EAST FORCE NEGOTIATIONS TAGS: MARR, BA, US

To: CINCUSNAVEUR COMIDEASTFOR

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006